Teacher Resource 8.8

Key Vocabulary: NOS versus OS

These are terms to be introduced or reinforced in this lesson.

| Term | Definition |
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| Active Directory | A Windows database used to store information about users, such as their user names, passwords, and system preferences, and the shared resources they are authorized to use. |
| authentication | The login process used to ensure that a user is who he claims to be and should be granted network access. |
| authorization | The process of granting or denying access to specific network resources based on the user’s identity. |
| centralized | A client/server network is a centralized system, meaning the server provides resources in one central location for other remote computers to access. |
| dedicated server | A computer used exclusively as a network server, providing shared network resources or performing network tasks. |
| domain controller | A basic type of Microsoft Windows server that stores user profiles and controls user authentication and security on a client/server network. |
| Domain Name System (DNS) | An Internet service that translates domain names (such as www.google.com) into IP addresses. Networks rely on numeric values, but domains are easier for humans to remember. |
| drive mapping | The process of creating a shortcut and assigning a drive letter to a shared network drive, so that the drive appears to be located on the local computer. |
| host | A computer system that stores files or information for other computers to access via the network—such as a web host that stores website files, or a client sharing files on a peer-to-peer network. |
| ipconfig | A command used to display the IP addresses for the local network, including the computers, routers, subnets, and more. |
| network address translation (NAT) | An Internet standard that enables a router to use one IP address for external (Internet) traffic and a separate one for internal (LAN) traffic. |
| network operating system (NOS) | An operating system used by a server; provides capabilities beyond a regular operating system to run a client/server network. |
| nslookup | A command for diagnosing DNS problems. When a network is functioning properly, using nslookup for a web domain will display the host server, its IP address, and the address associated with the domain name. |
| permissions | In a peer-to-peer network, files can be shared with one of three permission levels: Full Access, Write Only/Change, or Read Only. Files can be password protected. |
| ping | A command used at the command line to test the speed of a connection to another computer or website. |
| proxy server | A proxy server sits at the edge of the local network and connects to the Internet. It uses network address translation to make it appear as if all LAN traffic has originated at the gateway IP. |
| roaming | The capability of logging in to a network from multiple locations. In local area networks, it means that user information is stored on a network server, and users can access their system preferences and files and access shared resources from multiple client workstations. |
| segment | One section of a local area network, separated from other segments by bridges, routers, or switches. Subnets can also segment networks. Segmenting a large LAN is useful for keeping most network traffic within its own segment, to speed up the network overall. |
| subnet | A portion of a network sharing the same part of an IP address. |
| user profile | A profile containing desktop settings, preferences, and so on that Windows uses to keep track of users. |
| web server | A server that hosts a website or other files and is available for computers on the Internet or intranet to access. |
| workgroup | Client systems on a peer network can join a workgroup to share files with other systems in the same group. |

Teacher Resource 8.9

Bibliography: NOS versus OS

The following sources were used in the preparation of this lesson and may be useful to you as classroom resources. We check and update the URLs annually to ensure that they continue to be useful.

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